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SECURITY INFORMATION

4 April 1952

Chiefs, A/E and A/MAR

Chief, D/A


Policy and Operational Positions in Interagency Meetings

In accordance with instructions from the AD/RR, you will direct all of your analysts attending interagency meetings to refrain from taking a position on policy or operational decisions. Their function will be to present intelligence, including evaluations, estimates, and conclusions.

It is recognized that, frequently, the distinction between an intelligence conclusion and a policy determination is academic. A conclusion, for example, that a certain item meets the criteria for inclusion on one of the US or international control lists is equivalent to a recommendation that it be included. In such cases, however, we may give the intelligence conclusion, but should not take a position as to the treatment of the item in question. In some cases, admittedly, the distinction is unimportant, but in others it may be very important.

The rule, therefore, is that we will give factual intelligence and intelligence evaluation, estimates and conclusions, but that we will not vote on policies, programs, determinations, and procedures. We will not "reserve" our position; this implies that we will later take a position. We may, however, postpone the presentation of our intelligence estimate or conclusion.

cc: AD/RR ✓

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